

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
ACDA-07 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-13 MC-02 /108 W
-----101938Z 125968 /43

R 101505Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4035
INFO SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY COLLECTIVE 085
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY SUVA
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
USIA WASHDC
CINCPAC
CINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
DIA WASHDC
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG
CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA
CNO WASHDC//OP-614
DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII
OSC/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

EO 11652: NA

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ENGR, SOPN, TQ, TH, YE, TZ, ZA, RH, DM, MBFR, SP, GB
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - FEBRUARY 10, 1977

1. U.S. COVERAGE:

--THE ACCOUNT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S FEB 8 PRESS CONFERENCE IN PRAVDA (FEB 10) WAS VERY BRIEF AND FOCUSED ENTIRELY ON THE DISCUSSION OF THE ENERGY CRISIS BY THE PRESIDENT. THERE WAS NO MENTION THAT OTHER TOPICS WERE DISCUSSED.

--PRAVDA AND KZ RUN WASHINGTON TASS ACCOUNT OF HOW PENTAGON AND SENATE "HAWKS" SEEK TO INCREASE THE U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN EUROPE AT THE VERY MOMENT WHEN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS TRYING TO LOWER THE DEFENSE BUDGET. "NEWSDAY" REPORTEDLY VIEWS THESE MANEUVERS BY DETENTE OPPONENTS AS AIMED AT UNDERMINING SALT NEGOTIATIONS.

--STATE DEPARTMENT'S EXPULSION OF A TASS CORRESPONDENT FROM WASHINGTON IS DESCRIBED AS UNSPECIFIED "RETALIATION." TASS DIRECTOR-GENERAL SAYS THIS CONSTITUTES A VIOLATION OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT (PRAVDA, KZ FEB 10). BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND ON ADM. TURNER IS PROVIDED, AS WELL AS COMMENT THAT TURNER IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S. LIBERALS BECAUSE HE IS NOT A CIA PROFESSIONAL, AND TO THE CONSERVATIVES BECAUSE OF HIS MILITARY BACKGROUND (IZVESTIYA, FEB 9, KZ FEB 10).

--IZVESTIYA'S FEB 9 FRONT-PAGE INTERNATIONAL COMMENTARY BY V. KASSIS COVERS ALLEGED PENTAGON PLANS TO BUILD AND RECONSTRUCT BASIS IN MICRONESIA. U.S. ALSO SEEKS TO DEVELOP CLOSER TIES WITH MICRONESIA, IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VIOLATION OF UN TRUSTEESHIP.

2. CHINA:

--IN THE FIRST ANTI-PEKING COMMENTARY IN THE SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS SINCE THE DEATH OF MAO, AN AUTHORITATIVE PRAVDA "OBSERVER" ARTICLE FEB 10 BLAMES PEKING FOR THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN NORMALIZING SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS AND CHARGES THAT CHINA'S ANTI-SOVIETISM FEEDS THE "OPPONENTS OF SOCIALISM AND DETENTE." (SEPTTEL)

3. OTHER ASIA:

--ON INDIA, IZVESTIYA FEB 9 CARRIES A SHORT ITEM ON THE CONGRESS PARTY'S ELECTION MANIFESTO, NOTING COMMITMENT TO ITS "TRADITIONAL ORIENTATION" IN DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. PRAVDA FEB 10 CARRIES A SIMILAR ARTICLE ON THE CPI MANIFESTO.

--PRAVDA FEB 10 CARRIES A TASS VIENTIANE ITEM REPORTING THE LAOTIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE CHARGING THAT "THAI MILITARY CIRCLES" HAD

CARRIED OUT A "SERIOUS PROVOCATION" AGAINST LAOS.

4. MIDEAST:

--KZ ANNOUNCES THAT FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENSE, ARMY GENERAL S.L. SOKOLOV, WILL PAY AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO SOUTH YEMEN (PDRY) IN THE MIDDLE OF FEBRUARY, AT THE INVITATION OF THE PDRY CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF MAJOR S.A. BEN HUSSEIN.

5. AFRICA:

--IZVESTIYA REPORTS ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S AFRICAN TRIP, CITING THE WASHINGTON POST THAT "NO BASIC AGREEMENT" HAD BEEN REACHED IN AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENTS NYERERE AND KAUNDA. IZVESTIYA ALSO NOTES THAT THE AFRICANS OPPOSE U.S. VIOLATION OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA.

--PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA REPORT ON UNSC APPROVAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF BENIN'S REQUEST THAT A SPECIAL FACT-FINDING MISSION BE SENT TO BENIN IN THE WAKE OF THE RECENT ALLEGED MERCENARY ATTACK.

6. ARMS CONTROL:

--SPECIAL INTERVIEW ON TV FEB 9 FEATURED USA INSTITUTE'S ARBATOV AND MFA'S ISRAELYAN. ARBATOV'S REMARKS CONFINED TO VIRTUAL WORD-FOR-WORD REPLAY OF HIS PRAVDA ARTICLE (MOSCOW 1833). ISRAELYAN REHASHED NON-SALT DISARMAMENT ITEMS IN HO-HUM MANNER.

--KZ HAS LENGTHY MFBR REVIEW WHICH USES WILLY BRANDT STATEMENTS TO HINT AT POSSIBLE FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENTS AND CITES WESTERN GOVERNMENT LEADERS TO JUSTIFY SYMMETRICAL REDUCTIONS. MESSAGE THAT NEXT STEP IS UP TO WEST COMES ACROSS LESS STRONGLY THAN USUAL, BUT IS STILL THERE (SEPTTEL.)

--PRAVDA HAS LONG ARTICLE BY DISARMAMENT COMMENTATOR A. VILOV REVIEWING BIDDING ON NUCLEAR FREE AND PEACE ZONES, COMING DOWN MOST STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF INDIAN OCEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN ZONES, BUT MAKING POINT THAT USSR FAVORS WHOLE SERIES OF SUCH ZONES. INDIAN OCEAN EXPOSITION CLOSELY FOLLOWS SOVIET UNGA MEMORANDUM LINE.

7. EUROPE:

--ALL CENTRAL PRESS CARRY ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPENING OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SPAIN.

--V. OVCHINNIKOV CONTINUES HIS REPORTAGE FROM STRASBOURG IN PRAVDA ON ULSTER CASE.

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